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PATENT

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03549.0066-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Lonzell GRAHAM et al.

Application No.: 09/986,031

Filed: November 7, 2001

For: LAUNDRY SHEET CONTAINING A  
DETERGENT AND LAUNDRY  
DETERGENT FORMULATIONS

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 1771

)  
) Examiner: E. Cole

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a restriction requirement dated April 19, 2002, the Examiner required  
restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I, claims 50-52, drawn to a laundry sheet; and

Group II, claims 26-49 and 53, drawn to a process of making a laundry sheet.

The restriction requirement is respectfully traversed. However, to be fully  
responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect, with traverse, the subject  
matter of Group II, claims 26-49 and 53 drawn to a process of making a laundry sheet.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement on the ground that the  
Examiner has not shown there would be a serious burden to examine together the  
recited laundry sheet and process of making it, as recited in Groups I and II,  
respectively. As stated in M.P.E.P. § 803, "If the search and examination of the entire  
application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the



merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." (emphasis added). In the present case, Applicants submit that the laundry sheet of Group I is made by the process, and indeed depends from process claims of Group II. Because all of the process elements of Group II are within the claims of Group I, a proper search for the subject matter of Group II would necessarily encompass the search for the subject matter of Group I.

For at least these reasons, the restriction requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 7, 2002

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